Chief Ministers' meeting on linking of rivers

89. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has called a meeting of Chief Ministers of States to discuss the linking of rivers of the country;

(b) if so, whether there is unanimity of views on this subject; and

(c) if not, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Task Force on Inter-Linking of Rivers under Chairmanship of Shri Suresh P. Prabhu, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha has been constituted on 13.12.2002. One of the terms of reference of the Task Force is to devise suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States.

Tribunal on sharing of Krishna water

90. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted a petition seeking constitution of a Tribunal to regulate sharing of the Krishna water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The State of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a complaint under Section 3 of the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 to the Central Government on January 20, 2003 stating that water disputes with regard to use, distribution and control of the waters of the Inter-State river Krishna have arisen between the riparian States of